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Lyde's *Short Commercial Geography* is in marked contrast to the other books here noticed, as it is to any of its predecessors. It is not only bare of illustrations, diagrams, and statistical tables, but is almost entirely free from purely statistical information. For instance, the chapter on commodities has no figures of quantities produced, save in the single case of coal. The arrangement of the text is also peculiar. No narrative description of the various countries is given, the subject-matter being presented altogether in syllabus form. The merits of the book will be apparent to one who examines it at all carefully. More consistently than is the case with the rival American works, Lyde maintains the view-point of commercial geography; that is, of exhibiting the causal relation between the geographical environment and the economic development of the several countries. He omits, therefore, much unrelated geographical information, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, eschews almost entirely the statistical facts of commerce. The book is professedly more of an outline to be used in connection with outside maps and statistical manuals, and less of a treatise. That this possesses some advantages is to be admitted even by those who might claim that the arid form of the book will prove deterrent to the younger pupils. It is, however, a question whether a school text needs to be made into a picture-book, or whether the purely extrinsic interest derived from the exterior view of a gold mill, unrelated as it is to the text, will serve to vivify the dry bones of statistics.

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Facts and Figures: The Basis of Economic Science. By EDWARD ATKINSON. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1904. 8vo, pp. x + 202.

Mr. Atkinson has collected in a volume, under the title just given above, four essays and addresses which deal with some questions uppermost in the public mind. These are called: "A True Policy of Protection;" "The Tendency to Individualism Rather than Collectivism in the Manufacturing and All Other Arts;" "An Address to the American Free Trade League on the Hundredth Anniversary of Richard Cobden's Birth;" and "The Cost of War and Warfare." The spirit of investigation, discriminating statement, and subject-matter found in this table of contents are very much more uniform

than would be suggested by this enumeration, so that the book possesses unity.

In the first essay, which was read before the Boston Chamber of Commerce in May of last year, Mr. Atkinson puts forward a plan upon which the protectionist and free-trader can meet, and calls it reciprocity, but a reciprocity materially different from that usually considered under that name. This is a reciprocity, not secured by bargaining and concession, but by the reduction of the tariff on one side from which a wider trade will result. It is in effect the open door to an exchange of the products of the United States for the products of Canada, [which] need not rest upon any bargain or treaty between the two nations; each one may take off its taxes for its own benefit at the same time or at different times. To the extent or measure by which these taxes are removed will be the reciprocal benefit—that is, the benefit to both parties.

This statement, quoted from the author, forms the thesis of the essay. After a clear presentment of the argument for such action, the author asks who stands in the way of reciprocity of this kind. He finds these to be the persons who believe in the beneficial influences of the tariff. This argument is disposed of by showing the small number of persons actually benefited. This number the author places at 600,000, which is not far from the result reached by Mr. H. J. Davenport in the September, 1897, number of this *Journal*.

Contrary to the opinion generally prevailing, the statement that the last census indicates a tendency toward individualism is discussed and maintained in the second essay. Not only is there a shifting in the proportion of persons employed in the different industries, but a tendency toward increasing number and proportion of small workshops under individual control, together with an increasing number of small fortunes in the hands of a relatively larger number of persons. The argument is based upon figures which show in the small workshop—the individual industries—a very small capital in proportion to the amount of the work done, the highest rates of wages, and the largest product as compared to any of the collective branches of work. New stratas of society are constantly brought into existence, with the result that more skilled workers are required to carry on the higher grades of work. Even the movement from the field to the town is regarded from the same point of view, for, in the words of the author, this movement

is not wholly due to the same influences by which the forces of the great factories are lessened relatively year by year—a lessening number of high-grade men and women compass the increased product at a lessened cost.

In fact, with each stage in the development of tools, as distinguished from machinery, there comes a call upon individualism that is clearly seen in the increasing number of shops, high-grade men, and increased earnings. And this movement toward individualism would be more potent if certain influences did not stand in its way, among which is found the protective tariff.

The address upon Cobden follows, much of which is already contained in the two previous essays.

The famous essay on the "Cost of War and Warfare"—made so by the action of the government in taking the copies sent to the Philippines from the mails—closes the volume. In brief, the material of this part of the book presents figures showing the expenditures of the government from 1898 up to date, due to war and over-sea expansion, as \$1,200,000,000. This is the equivalent of a tax of \$200 on every family in the United States—a heavy price to pay for any advantages secured in over-sea possessions. In making the estimates, Mr. Atkinson has reduced the ordinary expenses to a per-capita basis. This he calls \$5. All sums over this amount he regards as expenditures due to the expansion. Thus the annual per-capita expenditures under McKinley and Roosevelt were \$6.61, making an annual difference of \$1.61 per capita to be accounted for. With additions and some modifications in the averages, entirely justified, Mr. Atkinson concludes that the

criminal aggression upon the people of the Philippine Islands, which a weak administration brought upon the country, will have cost the taxpayers to June, 1903, \$920,000,000—a sum slightly larger than the entire bonded debt of the United States, bearing interest, now outstanding.

Certain objections might be made against these estimates; as (1) that the expenses of government increase faster than population; (2) that the expenses of the navy would have been incurred regardless of the expansion; (3) this also applies in some degree to the army; (4) that part of the expenditures of the department of war are for roads and improvements; (5) that expenditures include the payments on the Spanish treaty, the Panama Canal, and on appropriations for irrigation, etc. Whether these deductions should be allowed does not alter the contention that a vast sum of money has been spent whose burden, falling upon the people at the time of high prices, is a serious matter, worthy of deep and careful consideration.

The book contains a great deal of suggestive material and has a real value for the student engaged in the study of statistical matter.

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Canada and the Empire: An Examination of Trade Preferences.

By EDWIN S. MONTAGU and BRON HERBERT. With a Preface by the RT. HON. THE EARL OF ROSEBURY, K.G. London: P. S. King & Son, 1904, 16mo, pp. xviii + 198.

This little book contains chapters on Canadian conditions, Canada and the United States, the Canadian view of English politics, results of preferential tariffs, and what Britain might do. It is written by two young Englishmen who spent a year in Canada for the purpose of studying the general Canadian attitude toward Chamberlain's scheme of preferential tariffs. They went to Canada "convinced, at least so far as England was concerned, that free trade and freedom to choose markets is the best policy. . . . [and] found nothing across the Atlantic to shake our [their] belief in the evils of protection." They also satisfied themselves "that in the best interests of the empire the policy of protection and preference is inexpedient and dangerous." This is a common attitude of English writers. While the book is not one of permanent value, it gives us an interesting and fairly impartial view of the subjects treated. About one-third of the book consists of an appendix, most of which is taken up with a consideration of "some Canadian opinions."

GEORGE MYGATT FISK.

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A History of Two Reciprocity Treaties. By CHALFANT ROBINSON. New Haven: Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Press, 1904. 8vo, pp. 220.

Beyond the fact of a widespread and increasing current interest in reciprocity as a means for the revision of the tariff and the extension of trade, there is but small justification for the appearance of the present volume. The author has examined in considerable detail the economic and political forces leading to the negotiation and the subsequent history of the Canadian and Hawaiian treaties, has indicated the political significance of the two conventions, and has carefully worked out the effect of their operation upon trade and industry, but